REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Applicant's attorney would like to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview on March 10, 2003. Counsel believes that the conversation was very productive and significantly advanced the issues in this case. Based on our discussions during the interview, independent claims 1, 9, 17, 20 and 25 have been amended to clarify that the interrupt indicator and speech recognition functions are recognized and activated, respectively, during a conversation between users. This functionality is not taught or suggested by the references of Moore (U.S. Pat. No. 6,125,284) and Houser (U.S. Pat. No. 5,774,859), either alone or in combination. Accordingly, each of the pending claims in this application is in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application and feels that a telephone conference would be helpful to resolve any issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at 312-595-1169.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit or any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3038/079420009NPUS00. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/14/03

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE BY AMENDMENT

1. (Twice Amended) In a subscriber unit capable of wireless communication with an infrastructure thereby providing voice communications between a user of the subscriber unit and another person via the infrastructure, the infrastructure comprising a speech recognition server, a method comprising steps of:

engaging in a voice communication between the user of the subscriber unit and the other person via the infrastructure;

locally recognizing, during the voice conversation, presence of an interrupt indicator; and

activating during the voice conversation, in response to the presence of the interrupt indicator, a portion of a speech recognition element to begin processing voice-based commands, wherein the speech recognition element is implemented at least in part within the infrastructure.

9. (Twice Amended) A subscriber unit that wirelessly communicates with an infrastructure, the subscriber unit comprising:

a detector for locally recognizing presence of an interrupt indicator during a voice communication between the subscriber unit and another person via the infrastructure; and

a portion of a speech recognition element that takes as input the presence of the interrupt indicator and, being activated by the presence of the interrupt indicator, begins processing voice-

based commands during the voice communication, wherein the speech recognition element is implemented at least in part within the infrastructure.

17. (Twice Amended) A wireless communication system comprising at least one subscriber unit in wireless communication with an infrastructure, the wireless communication system comprising:

within each of the at least one subscriber unit:

a detector for locally recognizing presence of an interrupt indicator during a voice communication between one of the at least one subscriber unit and the infrastructure;

a speech recognition client that takes as input the presence of the interrupt indicator and, being activated by the presence of the interrupt indicator, begins processing voice-based commands during the voice communication; and

a speech recognition server, within the infrastructure, that cooperates with the speech recognition client to provide a speech recognition element.

20. (Twice Amended) In a speech recognition server forming a part of an infrastructure and a part of a speech recognition element, the infrastructure in wireless communication with at least one subscriber unit, a method comprising steps of:

receiving, from a subscriber unit of the at least one subscriber unit, speech information provided in response to local recognition, at the subscriber unit, of presence of an interrupt indicator during a voice [communication] conversation with another person; and

performing speech recognition processing based on the speech information during the voice conversation.

25. (Twice Amended) A speech recognition server for use in an infrastructure that is in wireless communication with at least one subscriber unit, the speech recognition server comprising:

a receiver that takes as input speech information received from a subscriber unit of the at least one subscriber unit in response to local recognition, at the subscriber unit, of presence of an interrupt indicator during a voice communication with another person; and

a speech recognition analyzer that performs speech recognition processing based on the speech information during the voice communication.